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Blast Rocks Apartment Of Neo-Nazi

A bomb blast rocked a Kensington apartment house yesterday in what police believe was an attempt to destroy the apartment of a man linked to neo-Nazi and white-power causes.

Police Capt. Thomas O'Neill said the blast ripped off a screen door and smashed the main door next to the apartment of Charles Kress, 36, at Cumberland and Sepviva sts. at 12.35 A.M.

Kress who says he is seeking membership in the National Socialist White People's Party, was not at home at the time.

Bomb in Doorway

The bomb was placed between the screen door and main door of a vestibule next to the door leading to Kress's first-floor apartment. The vestibule leads to the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Duffy, which occupies the second and third floors of the three-story brick building.

The Duffys and their daughter, Deborah, 16, were awakened by the blast. No one was injured.

Police said they learned that a bomb threat against the apartment building on the southwest corner of the intersection was telephoned at 4 P.M. Friday to Al's Bar, located at the southeast corner.

Wants Tenants Warned

The anonymous caller said tenants of the apartment house should be warned because "we're going to blow that place up," police said.

O'Neill said Kress's apartment contained white-power and Nazi literature and was decorated with Nazi emblems and photographs of Adolf Hitler.

Lt. George Fencl, of the police civil disobedience unit, said the National Socialist White People's Party is an outgrowth of the American Nazi Party.

Claims Arrest

Kress said in an interview last Thursday night that he was arrested by a member of Fencl's squad at about 4.30 P.M. Thursday in connection with police attempts to remove a recorded antiblack message from his automatic telephone answering service.

Fencl said he did not arrest Kress, but talked to him and asked him not to incite residents with his telephone message.

Kress, charging "police intimidation," stopped the recording, which dealt with recent racial conflicts among pupils at Penn Treaty Junior High School.

The message, which supported violent white protests against the black students, ended with the warning:

"Penn Treaty, get rid of niggers or close down the school."

Played Message

Kress said he was taken to the Police Administration Building, 8th and Race sts., Thursday, where officers played the message on a tape recorder and "pulled every trick they could."

"They told me if I didn't take the message off the phone they would arrest me at my job tomorrow (Friday), so I took it off," he said. "I can't go through this any more."

Kress said in an interview several weeks ago that his anti-black messages are part of his campaign to become a member of the National Socialist White People's Party.

Seeks Membership

He said he has been trying to win membership to the party for seven years. He said he has to "prove himself through honesty, loyalty and bravery" before he becomes a full member and that he felt the telephone messages would help him reach his goal.

Kress said he is aware that his activities are unpopular in the neighborhood.

"The neighbors are looking at me like I'm a weirdo," he said. "All I did was try to stick up for the white kids."

Kress has a record of six arrests, two of which, for disorderly conduct, resulted in convictions.